

Delaware Sea Level Rise Advisory Committee
DRAFT Meeting Summary
February 15, 2011

Attendees:

Jennifer Adkins, Partnership for the DE Estuary
Tricia Arndt, DE Coastal Programs
Dave Carlson, DE Emergency Management Agency
Dave Carter, DE Coastal Programs
Richard Collins, Positive Growth Alliance
Sarah Cooksey, DE Coastal Programs
Mark Davis, DE Dept. of Agriculture
Barbara DeHaven, DE Economic Development Office
Morgan Ellis, DE Energy Office
Gerald Esposito, Tidewater Utilities, Inc.
Brenna Goggin, DE Nature Society
Constance Holland, DE Office of State Planning
Quinton Johnson, DE House of Representatives
Michael Kirkpatrick, DE Dept. of Transportation
Victor Lentonoff, Lewes Town Council
Susan Love, DE Coastal Programs
Robert McCleary, DE Dept. of Transportation
Rick Perkins, DE Div. of Public Health
Michael Petit de Mange, Kent County
Mike Powell, DNREC
Kurt Reuther, DE Dept. of Safety and Homeland Security

Keith Rudy, Homebuilders Assoc. of DE
Bob Scarborough, DE Coastal Programs
Peggy Shultz, League of Women Voters
Chris Sommerfield, University of DE
Rebecca Steel, Office of Management and Budget
John Taylor, DE Chamber of Commerce
Pam Thornburg, DE Farm Bureau
Chad Tolman, DE League of Women Voters
Robin Tyler, DNREC
Kelly Valencik, DE Coastal Programs
Richard Allen, Prime Hook Beach resident
Ginger Baum, Milford resident
Al Izzarone, South Bowers resident
Jim Kirkbride, Wilmington resident
Don Knox, Smyrna resident
Clinton Laird, Caesar Rodney Institute
Jane Laughlin, South Bowers resident
Nancy Lawson, Pickering Beach resident
John Matevko
John Nichols, Middletown resident
Ralph Satterfield, Pickering Beach resident
Hillary Stevens, UD

Materials Distributed:

Agenda
Draft summary of January meeting
Goals and Objectives from 12/16/10 Meeting
Workgroup Assignments list
2/9/11 letter from DE Bay Workgroup to Governor Markell
Vulnerability Assessment powerpoint presentation
Notebooks for Advisory Committee Members
*all materials distributed available online:
<http://www.swc.dnrec.delaware.gov/coastal/Pages/DESLRAdvisoryCommittee.aspx>

Action Items:

- **Delaware Coastal Programs** will seek clarification on procedures/policies for recording public meetings
- **Delaware Coastal Programs** will seek clarification State Climatologist designation

- **Delaware Coastal Programs** will follow up on data sources identified during workgroup meetings

Key Discussion Points:

Delaware Bay Working Group: Sarah Cooksey outlined the recommendations of a letter to the Governor from DNREC Secretary Collin O'Mara, and Senators Brian Bushweller and Gary Simpson detailing the Delaware Bay Working Group's recommendations for bay beach communities. The letter was made available to attendees. The Delaware Bay Working Group meets again on April 8th.

Old Business

The draft summary of the January 20, 2010 meeting was approved.

Per a request at the previous meeting, the draft guiding principles document was revisited for discussion. Susan Love explained that the document was a summary of the committee members' responses to the question, "What would you like to get out of this process?". The responses were used to help draft the goal statement which was voted on and approved at the December meeting. The group made minor changes and clarifications to the guiding principles document. As the document is not a "formal document", no vote was taken to approve.

Committee Member Presentations

As agreed upon at the December meeting, committee members Chad Tolman and Rich Collins were permitted to present their views on sea level rise to the group. Each gave a brief presentation. Chad Toleman's paper and handouts provided by Rich Collins will be available on the website.

Public Request to Record Meeting

Sarah informed the committee that a member of the public had requested to video tape portions of the meeting and opened the floor for discussion. Clinton Laird from the Caesar Rodney Institute was in attendance to record the scheduled presentations. Dave Carter recommended that the group allow the video-taping as there does not seem to be a DNREC policy prohibiting the action. Several members provided comments, some for and some against. Some expressed concerns about how the footage might be edited and that comments might be taken out of context. Sarah expressed concern that some members might be less forthcoming in discussions if the meetings are recorded. One suggestion was to solicit an independent third party to video tape the proceedings. Kurt Reuther shared that Delaware is a "single party consent state" and that video-taping is permissible by law. A recommendation was made to allow the taping of the 2 presentations and to table discussion of future taping pending advice from Attorneys General. Motion was approved. Clinton Laird from the Caesar Rodney Institute communicated to a committee member that the entire footage would be made available to the committee.

Vulnerability Assessments

Susan Love gave a presentation on vulnerability assessments and explained the goal of the break-out sessions for the workgroups. Members were assigned to one of three thematic workgroups- Economy and Society, Infrastructure and Hazardous Materials, and Natural Resources- and would meet at the

conclusion of the general meeting. The workgroups were to identify resources/assets/infrastructure their organization was concerned would be at risk from sea level rise and to list available data sets and data needs.

Public Comment

John Nichols, a public attendee, asked why Dr. David Legates from the University of Delaware was not on the committee. Sarah Cooksey responded that Secretary O'Mara asked Dr. Nancy Target, Dean of the College of Earth, Ocean and Environment at UD to serve on the committee and she appointed Dr. Chris Sommerfield as her representative. Mr. Nichols then asked questions regarding Chad Tolman's presentation to which Mr. Toleman responded.

Robin Tyler identified himself as DNREC scientist and a former waterman and shared personal observations of sea level rise.

Next Meeting: March 15, 2011, 9:00am-12:00pm, St. Jones Reserve